

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GUATEM 05760 122248Z  
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 ACDA-07 MCE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 TRSE-00  
OMB-01 /072 W

-----066799 130434Z/10

R 122227Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7460  
INFO USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUATEMALA 5760

E.O. 11652 NA  
TAGS: GT, MASS  
SUBJ: PRESIDENT LAUGERUD EXPRESSES SATISFACTION WITH US ARMS  
POSTURE

1. IN TWO ENCOUNTERS WITH LOCAL PRESS IN RECENT DAYS, PRESIDENT LAUGERUD HAS SHOWN A MODICUM OF SATISFACTION WITH U.SM RESPONSIVENESS TO GUATEMALAN REQUESTS FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT. RETURNING FROM WASHINGTON SEP 8, HE TOLD REPORTERS IT HAD NOT BEEN NECESSARY TO TAKE UP THE ISSUE OF ARMS SALES WITH PRESIDENT CARTER "INASMUCH AS THE MATTER IS ON TRACK (ESTA CAMINANDO)." DURING COVERAGE OF THE SPANISH KING'S VISIT SEP 11, LAUGERUD, CITING U.S. DISPOSITION TO SELL VEHICLES, GREANDES AND AMMUNITION, CHARACTERIZED THE USG AS #HAVING BECOME MORE FLEXIBLE" ON THE SUBJECT OF ARMS SALES.

2. COMMENT: THESE STATEMENTS REPRESENT A CONSIDERABLE CHANGE IN THE TENOR OF THE PRESIDENT'S PUBLIC COMMENTS ON U.S. ARMS POLICY TOWARD GUATEMALA. AS RECENTLY AS JULY, LAUGERUD CHAGED AT ALLEGED U.S. REFUSAL TO SELL TO GUATEMALA BECAUSE OF U.S. AFFINITY WITH BRITAIN (GUATEMALA 4583). HE AND OTHER GOG SPOKESMEN, IN LAMENTING THE SO-CALLED U.S. "EMBARGO",  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 GUATEM 05760 122248Z

HAD IGNORED THE FACT THAT MOST PURCHASE REQUESTS FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN ROUTINELY PROCESSED. THE KEY TO THE CHANGE IN THE PRESIDENT'S TONE WAS THE DECISION TO GO FORWARD WITH THE SALE OF MUCH-NEEDED 5.56 AMMUNITION. AMONG OTHER THINGS, GOG SENSITIVITY TO ANY EVIDENCE OF AN EROSION OF U.S. NEUTRALITY ON BELIZE GAVE THE AMMUNITION DECISION HIGH SYMBOLIC VALUE.

BOSTER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT, MILITARY SALES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 12-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977GUATEM05760  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770330-1165  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** GUATEMALA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770975/aaaacdkk.tel  
**Line Count:** 63  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** af138648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION PM  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1311683  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENT LAUGERUD EXPRESSES SATISFACTION WITH US ARMS POSTURE  
**TAGS:** MASS, GT, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/af138648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009